

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LIBREV 00496 151029Z

21

ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 AID-05 IGA-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DODE-00 /048 W

----- 011848

R 151011Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7523

INFO USDAO NDJAMENA

USDAO KINSHASA

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 0496

E.O. 11652: MRS

TAGS: MASS, MILI, GB

SUBJ: CHANGES IN FOREIGN MILITARY TRAINING PROGRAM

REF: STATE 051768

1. GENERAL BACKGROUND--TO DATE, USG HAS NOT HAD SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IN GABON OF ANY KIND, WHETHER GRANT AID, FMS SALES, OR FOREIGN MILITARY TRAINING. OVER LAST FEW YEARS, GOG HAS MADE SCATTERED SMALL PURCHASES OF U.S. MILITARY EQUIPMENT AND A FEW GABONESE AIR FORCE PILOTS HAVE RECEIVED FLIGHT TRAINING IN U.S. COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT SOLD GOG, BUT SALES AND TRAINING WERE EITHER ON STRAIGHT CASH BASIS OR FINANCED THROUGH EXIM BANK. PRACTICALLY ALL OF GOG FOREIGN MILITARY TRAINING NOW CONDUCTED IN FRANCE OR BY FRENCH INSTRUCTORS IN GABON. FRANCE PROBABLY OFFERS TRAINING AS GRANT ASSISTANCE OR UNDER SUBSIDISED PROGRAM WITH REDUCED COSTS. NOW, HOWEVER, USG IN PROCESS OF RESPONDING TO GOG REQUEST FOR SECURITY ASSISTANCE. FINAL DECISION NOT YET REACHED BUT INDICATIONS ARE THAT MODEST FMS CREDIT SALES PROGRAM MAY BE ESTABLISHED.

2. REPLIES TO QUESTIONS IN ORDER OF THEIR PRESENTATION

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LIBREV 00496 151029Z

IN PARA 5 OF REFTTEL FOLLOW:

A) SINCE GOG HAS NO PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH FMS TRAINING AND, THEREFORE, NO BASIS OF COMPARISON WITH NEW PRICES, THERE SHOULD BE NO EFFECT ON OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS FROM THE INCREASE IN THESE TRAINING COSTS. HOWEVER,

GOG CAN BE EXPECTED TO CLMPARE U.S. TRAINING COSTS WITH COSTS OF SIMILAR TRAINING AVAILABLE FROM FRENCH.

B) GOG MILITARY IN RECENT DISCUSSIONS OF SECURITY ASSISTANCE NEEDS CONCENTRATED ON EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES AND, EXCEPT FOR AIR FORCE, DID NOT INDICATE THEIR PRIORITIES FOR TRAINING. HOWEVER, LOGICAL TO ASSUME THAT IF FMS CREDIT SALES PROGRAM WERE ESTABLISHED HERE, TRAINING OF GREATEST INTEREST TO GOG MILITARY WOULD BE IN MAINTENANCE AND USE OF EQUIPMENT SOLD UNDER SUCH PROGRAM.

C) EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT U.S. NATIONAL INTEREST WOULD ALSO BE SERVED BEST IF TRAINING WERE OFFERED AS COMPLEMENT TO SALES OF EQUIPMENT UNDER FMS PROGRAM. EMBASSY ALSO BELIEVES THAT IF COSTS OF SUCH TRAINING NOT EXORBITANT AND INCLUDED AS PART OF FMS SALES PACKAGE, THEN GOG LIKELY TO AGREE TO PURCHASE TRAINING ALONG WITH EQUIPMENT. D.E.F.) NOT APPLICABLE TO SITUATION IN GABON. DEJARNETTE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, COSTS, MILITARY TRAINING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LIBREV00496
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760096-1081
From: LIBREVILLE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760361/aaaacbjs.tel
Line Count: 82
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION PM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 51768
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 JUN 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <05 OCT 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CHANGES IN FOREIGN MILITARY TRAINING PROGRAM
TAGS: MASS, MILI, GB
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006